

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of printing from a computing device, said method comprising:

sending a print task to a local print system component in a local network;

acquiring, with said local print system component, printer data for a plurality of remote printers located in a remote network wherein said plurality of remote printers are not directly accessible to said local print system component, said plurality of remote printers being in communication with a remote print system component located in said remote network;

~~automatically selecting, with said local print system component, at least one of said plurality of printers by comparing said printer data with parameters of said print task;~~

sending said print task from said local print system component to said remote print system component in said remote network; and

sending said print task, from said remote print system component in said remote network, to at least one of said plurality of printers in communication with said remote print system component for printing.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said local print system component is a spooler.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said local print system component is a print processor.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said remote print system component is a spooler.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said remote print system component is a print processor.

6. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising reconfiguring said print task according to said printer data related to said print task.

7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein said reconfiguring is performed via said local print system component.

8. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein said reconfiguring is performed via said remote print system component.

9. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein said reconfiguring enables said print task to be printed on at least one remote device.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said reconfiguring comprises reconfiguring said print task for cluster printing on said plurality of remote printers ~~remote to said local print system component~~.

11. (currently amended) A method of remote printing, said method comprising:

sending a print task to a local print system component on a local network;

determining characteristics of said print task;

determining the availability of a plurality of remote printing devices located on a remote network, wherein said remote printing devices are not directly accessible to said local print system component, said determining being performed via a

remote print system component in said remote network, wherein said remote print system component is in communication with said local print system component;

determining the capabilities of said plurality of remote printing devices;

~~selecting, with said local print system component, at least one of said remote printing devices that is available for printing said print task;~~

~~reconfiguring said print task for printing on said selected at least one remote printing device;~~

sending said ~~reconfigured~~ print task to a said remote print system component; and

sending said ~~reconfigured~~ print task from said remote print system component to at least one of said ~~selected at least one~~ plurality of remote printing devices for printing.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising ~~prompting a user for printing task preferences~~ selecting, via said local print system component, said at least one of said plurality of remote printing devices.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 ~~wherein said selected at least one remote printing device is different than a device originally selected by a user~~ further comprising reconfiguring said print task.

14. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein said determining characteristics is accomplished via said local print system component.

15. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein said determining characteristics is accomplished via said remote print system component.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 wherein said reconfiguring comprises job splitting among said plurality of remote devices.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 wherein said reconfiguring comprises copy splitting among said plurality of remote devices.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 wherein said reconfiguring comprises ~~distribution~~ division of a said print task into multiple print tasks for printing on ~~to~~ a cluster of said remote printing devices ~~printers~~.

19. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein said reconfiguring comprises changing the destination of a print task.

20. (currently amended) A method of remote printing, said method comprising:

sending a print task to a local print system component on a local network;

determining a device requirement of said print task;

sending said device requirement to a remote print system component on a remote network that does not share devices with said local network;

checking, with said remote print system component, the availability of a plurality of remote printing devices on said remote network, wherein said remote printing device is not directly accessible to said local print system component, but is in communication with said remote print system component;

determining, with said remote print system component, the capability of said plurality of remote printing devices to meet said device requirement;

automatically selecting at least one of said plurality of remote printing devices; and

sending said print task to said selected at least one remote printing device.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 20 further comprising reconfiguring said print task for said at least one ~~suitable~~ remote printing device.

22. (currently amended) A system for remote printing, said system comprising:

a local print task receiver for receiving a print task from a local computing device on a local network;

a print task analyzer for determining a print task requirement;

a remote printer data acquirer for acquiring printer data for a plurality of remote printers on a remote network that does not share printers with devices on said local network;

a print task distributor for distributing said print task to a remote print system component on said remote network; and

a printer selector for comparing printer data with said print task requirement and for selecting at least one of said plurality of printers based on said comparing.

23. (currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising instructions for performing functions within a print system component, said instructions comprising the acts of:

receiving a print task from a device on a local network;

determining print task characteristics;

sending print task characteristic data to a remote print system component on a remote network that does not share devices with said local network;

receiving printer data from said remote print system component, said printer data identifying remote printers on said remote network that are capable of printing said print task;

selecting at least one of said remote printers capable of printing said print task;

~~reconfiguring said print task, if necessary, to accommodate printing on~~
~~said selected at least one of said printers capable of printing said print task;~~

sending said print task to said remote print system component; and

sending said print task from said remote print system component to said at least one of said remote printers selected in said selecting printers capable of printing said print task.

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

26. (new) A method of printing from a local computing device to a non-shared remote printer, said method comprising:

sending a print task to a local print system component in a local network;

acquiring printer data for at least one remote printer on a remote network that does not share devices with said local network;

sending said print task from said local print system component to a remote print system component on said remote network; and

sending said print task from said remote print system component to said at least one remote printer for printing.

27. (new) A system for remote printing, said system comprising:

a local print system component capable of:

receiving a print task from a local network device,

acquiring printer data for a remote printer on a remote network that does not share devices with said local network,

communicating with a remote print system component on said remote network that can utilize said remote printer; and

sending said print task to said remote print system component for printing on said remote printer.